REMARKS

Applicants wish to thank Examiner Harper for indicating allowability of Claims 3, and 11-12 if rewritten in independent form including all of the limitations of the base claim and any intervening claims.

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the application, as amended, in view of the following remarks.

The present invention as set forth in **amended Claim 4** relates to a process of fabricating a thin-film EL device having at least a structure comprising an electrically insulating substrate, a patterned electrode layer stacked on said substrate, and a dielectric layer, a light-emitting layer and a transparent electrode stacked on said electrode layer, wherein:

said dielectric layer is provided on said electrode layer in a multilayer form by repeating coating-and-firing of a dielectric precursor solution at least three times.

In contrast, Wu et al fail to disclose or suggest that a dielectric layer is provided on an electrode layer in a multilayer form by repeating coating-and-firing of a dielectric precursor solution **at least three times**. All that this reference discloses is that a dielectric layer is formed as two layers (Wu et al, col. 8, lines 41-42) and that the dielectric layers are formed by thick film deposition followed by sintering (Wu et al, col. 8, lines 27-30). However, these steps are not repeated at least **three** times as presently claimed and there is no suggestion or motivation to do so.

Therefore, the rejection of Claim 4 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Wu et al is believed to be unsustainable as the present invention is neither anticipated nor obvious and withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

The rejection of Claims 1-2, 4-10 and 13-20 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 2 and 6 of U.S. 6,577,059 is obviated by the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith.

The rejection of Claims 18 and 19 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claims 2 and 6 of U.S. 6,577,059 in view of Fujita et al in further view of Sun et al is obviated by the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith.

The rejection of Claims 4 and 5 under the judicially created doctrine of obviousness-type double patenting over Claim 10 of U.S. 6,577,059 is obviated by the Terminal Disclaimer filed herewith.

The objection to Claim 14 under 37 C.F.R. § 1.75(c) is obviated by the cancellation of Claim 14.

The rejection of Claim 9 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, is obviated by the amendment of Claim 9.

In regard to the Examiner's request for a signature on the affidavit in this case, Applicants note that the executed version of the Rule 132 Declaration filed June 30, 2003, was filed on July 14, 2003. For the Examiner's convenience, copies of all pertinent papers as filed July 14, 2003, are attached herewith.

This application presents allowable subject matter, and the Examiner is kindly requested to pass it to issue. Should the Examiner have any questions regarding the claims or otherwise wish to discuss this case, he is kindly invited to contact Applicants' below-signed representative, who would be happy to provide any assistance deemed necessary in speeding this application to allowance.

Respectfully submitted,

OBLON, SPIVAK, McCLELLAND,
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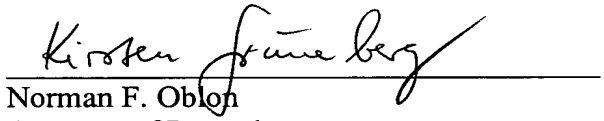

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